

EXHIBIT B2

Lawrence Lind, M.D.

1 In your opinion, is there a
2 significant biomaterials difference
3 between Prolift and Prolift+M?

4 MS. GERSTEL: Object to the
5 form.

6 A. In terms of how it's designed
7 and there being a permanent and an
8 absorbable component to it , I would say
9 yes, there's a significant difference.

10 Does that turn into a
11 significant difference clinically? I'm
12 not sure we know enough or have enough
13 good studies to give a conclusion on that.

14 Q. Okay.

15 MR. RESTAINO: I'm going to have
16 marked as next an article by Withagen,
17 et al.

18 (Lind Exhibit 12, Withagen
19 article Trocar-Guided Mesh Compared
20 With Conventional Vaginal Repair in
21 Recurrent Prolapse, was marked for
22 identification, as of this date.)

23 BY MR. RESTAINO:

24 Q. Do you recall this article, sir?

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1 Q. And under the mini section of
2 "Previous Surgery" down towards the bottom
3 you see sacrocolpopexy listed?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And do you see that there's a
6 N of 6 under "Conventional" and 18 percent
7 after that?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And then there's p-value of .01,
10 correct?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Does that indicate to you there
13 was a significantly significant larger
14 number of patients that have previously
15 had vaginal -- excuse me. Had
16 sacrocolpopexy in the vaginal mesh group
17 than in the conventional group?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Now, there's actually
20 approximately almost three times as many
21 women in the vaginal mesh group; is that
22 correct?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And that's a source of bias, is

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1 it not?

2 A. The study is randomized, which
3 as we both know is best designed to
4 minimize bias. Despite randomization, in
5 this study you have more people in one
6 group with a previous sacrocolpopexy than
7 the other.

8 If you look down further, you
9 have people, you have more patients with
10 more than one previous surgery in the
11 conventional group. So, you know, it goes
12 both ways.

13 I think to me the key element
14 for prolapse surgery is are the stages of
15 prolapse similar, which they are in this
16 study 'cause that's what you're starting
17 with. If you have a stage 3 prolapse of a
18 sacrocolpopexy, the bias that we're trying
19 to discuss for a group that would have had
20 more that would have had a previous
21 support procedure would mean, well, she
22 already has some support from the previous
23 surgery, so that would lead towards
24 possibly a better outcome for her having

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1 BY MR. RESTAINO:

2 Q. If you would turn to page 14,
3 they have a paragraph on 14 that starts
4 off with: "We rated 18 studies."

5 Do you see that?

6 A. Which paragraph?

7 Q. I didn't write it down for
8 myself. You want to hand it to me. I'll
9 try to save you a little eye strain.

10 (Pause.)

11 It's the second paragraph under
12 "Allocation."

13 A. Okay.

14 Q. (Reading) "We rated 18 studies
15 that did not describe an adequate method
16 of allocation concealment as at unclear
17 risk in this domain, and we rated two
18 studies as at high risk of bias, as they
19 either did not use allocation concealment,
20 in Tamanini 2014, or we suspected a high
21 potential for bias (Withagen 2011.)"

22 Did I read that correctly?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And the Withagen 2011 is what we

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1 were reading, correct?

2 A. Correct.

3 Q. Now, looking at the same page of
4 that Cochrane analysis, you see they also
5 have a paragraph titled "Selective
6 Reporting"?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And there at the bottom the
9 final sentence of that: "We rated one
10 study as at high risk of selective
11 reporting because the choice of primary
12 outcome appeared to be inconsistent
13 (Withagen 2011)."

14 Did I read that correctly?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And then if you look on the same
17 page there's a section titled "Other
18 Potential Sources of Bias." And then you
19 see in the middle of that paragraph they
20 write: "In Withagen 2011, women in the
21 native tissue group had greater degree
22 prolapse at point A posterior (Ap), point
23 B posterior (Bp), and genital hiatus (GH)
24 compared to the mesh group and prior

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1 sacrocolpopexy was three times more
2 frequent in the mesh group."

3 Did I read that correctly?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. So these biases in Withagen are
6 listed in the Maher systemic review that
7 you describe as the highest evidence of
8 scientific -- highest degree of scientific
9 evidence; is that correct?

10 A. It is a -- it is in the category
11 of the highest level, but we are
12 microdissecting one analysis with
13 Withagen. That is not the study in total.

14 Q. So you're selectively taking out
15 sections of Withagen that support your
16 opinions and you're disregarding that
17 which is limited which is discussed in

18 Cochrane?

19 MS. GERSTEL: Object to the
20 form.

21 A. No. I am saying that if we are
22 going to discuss Cochrane, you've given me
23 four pages from Cochrane. So if we want
24 to go into the details of that study and

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1 Q. And if you look at the very
2 bottom of that table, and I'm going to
3 apologize to you, sir. I printed this out
4 last night because I realized I had
5 forgotten to print this out at home. The
6 actual table is in color, and here at the
7 inn they did not have a color printer.
8 But you see at the bottom is the Withagen
9 2011? Do you see that, sir?

10 Now, I represent to you the very
11 first column is green with a plus.

12 A. I'm sorry, tell me again.

13 Q. The first column which they
14 title as "Random Consequence Generation
15 (selection bias)."

16 A. Right.

17 Q. For Withagen it's green. It
18 gets a plus.

19 A. Right.

20 Q. Now, next to it is "Allocation
21 Concealment (selection bias)." That's red
22 with negative.

23 A. Okay.

24 Q. After that "Blinding of

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1 Participants and Personnel (performance
2 bias)." That's red.

3 A. Got it.

4 Q. "Blinding of Outcome Assessment
5 (detection bias)," and that's red.

6 A. Got it.

7 Q. Then comes a yellow with a
8 question mark, and that column is
9 "Incomplete Outcome Data (attrition
10 bias)." And then the second to last is
11 red "Selective Reporting (reporting
12 bias)." And then the final column also
13 red is "Other Biases."

14 So, in this table alone, aside
15 from the colpopexy bias that you discuss,
16 the Cochrane Review indicates the Withagen
17 article has a minimum of five forms of
18 bias, selection bias, performance bias,
19 detection bias, reporting bias, other
20 bias, which I will give you may include
21 your argument regarding colpopexy.

22 Now, you indicated you read the
23 Cochrane analysis in its entirety,
24 correct?

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1 A. Almost its entirety.

2 Q. Did you not see this section on
3 Withagen?

4 A. I saw the section on Withagen.

5 Q. And is there any language in
6 your expert report in those two paragraphs
7 of Withagen indicating that this study
8 does in fact contain five forms of bias?

9 A. No, there is not.

10 Q. Now, on page 8, sir, of your
11 expert report, you discuss a section, an
12 article Svabik, S-V-A-B-I-K.

13 Did I read that correctly?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. And there Svabik and colleagues'
16 trial compare Prolift Total to native
17 tissue repair randomized 70 women into two
18 treatment groups, correct?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And then the follow-up on page 9
21 of your expert report, they discuss the
22 follow-up was conducted at three months
23 and 12 months; is that correct?

24 A. Yes.

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1 like we're on a different page. I think
2 it's page 83. It's the third page of the
3 document. It is page 83.

4 A. My top right says "Assessed."

5 Q. Yes, the first full sentence.

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. (Reading) "Ten of the originally
8 included non-randomized studies were
9 excluded as a result of short follow-up
10 (less than 12 months.)"

11 Did I read that correctly?

12 A. Yep.

13 Q. So therefore, Schimpf, et al.
14 would consider studies of less than 12
15 months as having been of short follow-up
16 and actually excluded from their analysis;
17 is that correct?

18 A. Yes, 12 months, not 24 months.

19 Q. Now, if you turn to the next
20 page, you see "Outcomes and Interior
21 Compartments"?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. At the bottom of the paragraph
24 they write: "20 studies compared

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1 synthetic non-absorbable mesh and native
2 tissue repair and 11 studies compared a
3 graft or mesh or other graft material."

4 Did I read that correctly?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Then there's an appendix 3 link
7 for that.

8 Did you pull the link and look
9 at those 20 studies?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Do you know which mesh were
12 included in those 20 studies?

13 A. No.

14 Q. Do you know how many of them
15 consisted of Gynemesh or Prolift?

16 A. What fraction, no.

17 Q. And you had, when asked about
18 the different mesh at the beginning of the
19 deposition, you indicated it would be
20 inappropriate to lump all polypropylene
21 mesh together in one study, did you not?

22 MS. GERSTEL: Object to form.

23 A. Yes. However, most of the
24 randomized control studies, if we can go

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1 know if it was listed there?

2 A. I think the committee opinions
3 are all listed on -- on the -- on the ACOG
4 Web site and the AUGS Web site, but I
5 don't specifically recall looking at it on
6 the computer. I have the paper.

7 Q. And the paper itself was from
8 the Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology?

9 A. I would have to see the
10 reference.

11 Q. Do you know that the Web page on
12 ACOG regarding this committee opinion has
13 been pulled down?

14 A. I'm not aware of that.

15 MR. RESTAINO: I'll go ahead and
16 have the court reporter mark as next a
17 printout of that page.

18 (Lind Exhibit 15, printout from
19 ACOG Web site, was marked for
20 identification, as of this date.)

21 A. When they pull them down, it's
22 because they've updated them, and I want
23 to make sure that pulling it down does not
24 represent that they no longer support any

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1 Reclassification of Mesh For Pelvic
2 Organ Prolapse dated January 6, 2016.
3 (Lind Exhibit 17, ACOG Practice
4 Advisory on the FDA's Reclassification
5 of Mesh For Pelvic Organ Prolapse
6 dated January 6, 2016, was marked for
7 identification, as of this date.)

8 BY MR. RESTAINO:

9 Q. And you would agree that 2016,
10 sir, is after 2011, correct?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And in this practice advisory
13 dated January 6, 2016 on point number 1
14 they write: "The FDA reclassified these
15 medical devices from Class 2, which
16 generally includes moderate-risk devices,
17 to Class 3, which generally includes high
18 risk devices."

19 Did I read that correctly?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Now, while mentioning the ACOG
22 committee opinion from 2011 in your expert
23 report, you do not mention in your expert
24 report that ACOG in 2016 notes that these

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1 medical devices are now considered high
2 risk devices, do you?

3 MS. GERSTEL: Object to form.

4 A. I have to look a little more
5 through my statement because I think I do
6 reference FDA notifications on devices.

7 Q. I'll represent to you that you
8 do mention the 2008-2011 advisory, but
9 nothing about --

10 A. Correct, I do not -- I do not
11 mention the 2016 ACOG practice advisory
12 that you have placed in front of me.

13 Q. Now, on page 13 of your Gynemesh
14 expert report -- page 14 you have a
15 paragraph where you state: "I have
16 specifically discussed many of these in my
17 analysis of the medical literature above."

18 Do you see that, sir? I think
19 it's page 14.

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. (Reading) "With the exception of
22 recurrent/failure rates and mesh exposure,
23 significant differences in complication
24 rates between mesh augmented and non-mesh

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1 Q. I think so.

2 A. "Of those who were initially
3 treated non-surgically"?

4 "Of the women who initially had
5 in-office trimming"?

6 Q. Yes.

7 "Of the women who initially had
8 in-office trimming of mesh, 73.3 percent
9 eventually went to the operating room."

10 Did you see that, sir?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Now, again your expert report
13 states the majority of exposures can be
14 treated conservatively, whether
15 expectantly or with topical estrogen
16 cream, but these surgeons from these four
17 medical centers found that 73.3 percent of
18 these patients who undergo an in-office
19 trimming ended up in the operating room,
20 did they not?

21 A. The statements as they've
22 written statistically and their results
23 clearly are accurate. These are expert
24 researchers and expert surgeons.

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1 Q. About five or six lines down
2 they start "First."

3 Do you see that?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. (Reading) "First, approximately
6 one-half of the women (49.3 percent) who
7 sought treatment of a mesh related
8 complication at a tertiary referral center
9 actually underwent their index procedure
10 at a facility other than that tertiary
11 referral center."

12 And that's what you've been
13 saying, correct?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. (Reading) "This trend has been
16 reported in other studies as well.
17 Reference 12. This raises the potential
18 concern that physicians who perform these
19 mesh procedures may not be aware of the
20 complications their patients experience
21 and that these providers may be
22 responsible for future mesh related
23 complications with no awareness of the
24 existing magnitude of the issue."

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1 Did I read that correctly?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Now, the impetus for this entire

4 line of questioning is you wrote in your

5 expert report that mesh complications are

6 typically mild and can be treated

7 expectantly, mesh erosion can be treated

8 expectantly and/or with estrogen cream,

9 but you don't put in your expert report

10 that there is a portion of women with the

11 same complications that undergo very

12 significant morbidity and surgical

13 correction, correct?

14 MS. GERSTEL: Object to form.

15 A. I think I do indicate in my

16 report that people do require surgery to

17 correct this. How detailed I get into on

18 how invasive the repairs are is not

19 detailed as specifically as the line of

20 questioning here. That's fair.

21 Q. Do you state for the judge the

22 percentage, almost 50 percent that have to

23 undergo a mesh excision in this situation?

24 MS. GERSTEL: Object to the

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1 form.

2 A. I strongly disagree with the 46

3 percent which you're quoting from this

4 article, as I've stated previously, is a

5 cross-sectional collection of four case

6 series lumped together referred to four of

7 the top people in the nation and does not

8 represent the -- any of the percentages of

9 requiring mesh complete removals as based

10 on the stronger studies, randomized

11 studies, and from a statistical design

12 standpoint, to be quoting these as the

13 risk of total removal rate of 46 percent

14 is dismissing everything that we have both

15 learned in terms of statistical design and

16 what is legitimate to state as an overall

17 risk.

18 Q. But it is data, correct?

19 A. It is data of the worst cases

20 sent to the surgeons who take the cases

21 that no one else can take. That's biased

22 data.

23 MS. GERSTEL: The time is at two

24 hours.